

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office action dated February 4, 2005, where the Examiner has allowed claims 14, 15, and 29, rejected claims 1-3 and 16-19, and objected to claims 4-13 and 20-28. By the present amendment, claims 1-3 and 16-19 have been canceled without prejudice and to further prosecution, and claims 4, 11, and 20 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 4-15 and 20-29 remain in the present application. Allowance of remaining claims 4-15 and 20-29 in view of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

A. Allowable subject matter

Claims 14, 15, and 29 stand allowed. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's statement of allowance regarding claims 14, 15, and 29.

On page 5 of the Office action in the Allowable Subject Matter section, the Examiner states that claims 4 and 20 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicant has redrafted claims 4 and 20 accordingly. More particularly, currently amended independent claims 4 and 20 incorporate the limitations of previous independent claims 1 and 17, respectively, and previous intervening claims 2-3 and 18-19, respectively. In addition, the elements of presently amended claims 4 and 20 have been reorganized to improve readability.

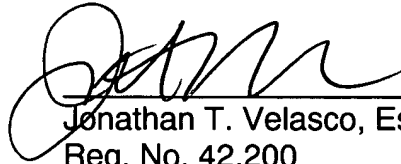
The Examiner further states that claims 5-13 and 21-28 are objected to due to their dependency upon claims 4 and 20, respectively. Claims 5-13 now depend on currently amended independent method claim 4, claims 21-28 now depend on currently amended independent system claim 20. In addition, claim 11 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-15 and 20-29 are now in condition for allowance.

B. Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, a Notice of Allowance directed to claims 4-15 and 20-29 remaining in the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted;

Dated: APR 12, 2005


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